



College Lectureship in English (1830 to the present day) (part-time)

Further Particulars

St Peter's College invites applications for a fixed-term part-time College Lectureship in English (1830 to the present day) for a period of one year (1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026) to provide teaching during Prof Marina MacKay's sabbatical leave.

Applicants should have completed, or have made substantial progress towards, a doctoral dissertation in this subject. The position will be particularly suitable for an early career scholar seeking experience in college teaching and administration.

The College currently admits *circa* eight undergraduate students a year to read English or Joint Schools with English. The appointee will work alongside Professor Abigail Williams, Fellow and Tutor in English, and other College Lecturers.

Full information about the College is available on the College website www.spc.ox.ac.uk.

1. General

The person appointed to the post will be expected to teach the equivalent of four hours of tutorials or classes for the College each week. They will teach Prelims paper 3 (Victorian), Paper 4 (Modern) and Paper 1B (the 'Literature' half of Introduction to English Language and Literature) and provide undergraduate dissertation supervision where appropriate. In addition, they will be expected to take a full role in undergraduate admissions in week 9 of Michaelmas term.

2. Duties

The main responsibilities of the Lecturer will be as follows:

1. To plan and provide tutorial and class teaching for up to an average of four weighted hours¹ in each week of full term (eight weeks each) through doing the following:
 - Teaching tutorials and classes for Section B ('Approaches to Literature') of Prelims Paper 1 (Introduction to English Language and Literature) in Michaelmas term. Further information about the content of the paper can be found in Appendix A.
 - Teaching tutorials and classes for Prelims Paper 3 (Literature in English 1830-1910) in Michaelmas term (with revision sessions in Trinity term). Further information about the content of the paper can be found in Appendix A.
 - Teaching tutorials and classes for Prelims Paper 4 (Literature in English 1910-present day) in Hilary term (with revision sessions in Trinity term). Further information about the content of the paper can be found in Appendix A.

¹ Under the College's weighting system for Stipendiary Lecturers, teaching hours are worked out on the basis of teaching students in pairs. Any hours spent teaching larger groups are counted as 1.2 hours, while any hours spent with individual students count as 0.8 hours.

- The appointee may also be expected to provide dissertation supervision to St Peter's finalists where appropriate.
2. To ensure that students receive timely feedback on their work during term, both week by week and in termly reports, and to set and mark internal examinations ('Collections').
 4. To participate in College admissions procedures, including reading UCAS forms, written work and interviewing (during December each year).
 5. To undertake day-to-day academic administration to support and enhance undergraduate education (e.g. the writing of references for students; the selection of books for the College Library, etc.).
 6. To undertake pastoral responsibilities for students studying English in consultation with other English tutors at St Peter's and in liaison with the College Welfare Team.

A more detailed guide to tutorial responsibilities and other information will be communicated to the successful candidate by the Senior Tutor following appointment.

3. Selection Criteria

To be successful, candidates will need show that they meet the following selection criteria:

- (i) have completed or be about to complete a doctorate in English Literature in a topic relevant to the teaching range required.
- (ii) have experience in teaching English Literature and Language from 1830-present day.
- (iii) demonstrate the ability to be an effective and inspiring teacher of English Literature and Language, particularly to undergraduates of high ability in a tutorial system.
- (i) have the potential to discharge willingly and competently the full range of academic administrative duties, besides teaching, upon which the effective operation of English as a subject within the College depends.
- (ii) have good communication and interpersonal skills, and to be able to contribute to the work of the team of academic staff in English at St Peter's.
- (iii) be prepared to undertake admissions training if necessary.

4. Remuneration and conditions

Term of appointment

The period of appointment will be from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026.

Remuneration and other conditions

Remuneration will be *pro rata* on the Senior Tutors Committee scale for Stipendiary Lecturers. The current (2024-25) rate for a 4-hour post is £11,046 to £12,205pa (£920 to £1,017 per month). The appointee will have access to an entertainment allowance of £110 pa.

Pension scheme

The Lecturer will be automatically enrolled in the Universities Superannuation Scheme with effect from the start date of their employment; it is possible subsequently to opt out.

Senior Common Room

The successful candidate will be an associate member of the Senior Common Room and will be entitled to four free lunches or dinners per week during termtime and two lunches per week during the vacation, provided that the kitchens are open (they are occasionally closed for short periods, normally during the vacation). They will not be a member of the College's Governing Body.

College teaching rooms may be booked as necessary.

5. Application procedure

Candidates should send a letter of application, together with a curriculum vitae and the names and contact details of two referees electronically to academic.appointments@spc.ox.ac.uk (contact telephone 01865 278857) by **12noon on Thursday 15 May 2025**. (There is no application form.)

Please include the words 'English Lectureship' in the subject line of all email correspondence.

We will ask for references for shortlisted candidates once the shortlisting is complete.

It is expected that shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend an interview on **Tuesday 3 June 2025**.

Informal queries can be addressed to Prof Marina MacKay, Fellow and Tutor in English (marina.mackay@spc.ox.ac.uk).

St Peter's is an equal opportunities employer. The appointment will be subject to the provision of proof of the right to work in the UK.

April 2025

APPENDIX A

From the English Prelims Handbook:

Paper 1: Introduction to English Language and Literature

This paper is intended to introduce you to English language and literature as a discipline, and to a variety of approaches to reading texts. It will introduce you to formal study of the English language, with particular reference to different contexts of use, whether social, cultural, political, persuasive, as well as its historical development and its use as a literary medium. The paper will also acquaint you with a wide range of theoretical issues and reading skills, but in doing so seeks to encourage you to think for yourself and to exercise critical scrutiny.

There is a course of 16 core lectures which run weekly through Michaelmas and Hilary terms. The lectures in Michaelmas Term will cover topics relating to literature, and those in Hilary Term will cover language. Colleges will normally supplement these by eight college classes spread over those two terms, and by four tutorials. This college teaching will give you the opportunity to practice written work for your portfolio examination, and to explore different types of texts and the analytical approaches that might be used.

College tutors will not necessarily base classes and tutorials on the weekly lecture topics and the further reading that accompanies them. The lectures are designed to introduce topics and to suggest approaches to them. Your college work will supplement and challenge what you have learnt in lectures. You will be expected to make connections between and around the lecture topics, and you will want to think about how studying for this paper informs and enriches your first year work as a whole.

Assessment for this paper will be by portfolio. The examination paper, consisting of a section on language and a section on literature, will be released by the Faculty on Monday of week 4 of Trinity Term. Your portfolio will consist of two pieces of written work of between 1,500 and 2,000 words each (including footnotes but excluding bibliography and appendix). You are required to choose one question from each of the two sections. Your portfolio must be submitted online on Thursday of week 5, Trinity Term.

Paper 3: Literature in English 1830 – 1910

This paper examines literature in English from roughly 1830 to 1910, though you are permitted to look at material earlier and later than these boundaries in order to make sense of any particular writer's development. The essay questions in the examination tend to be based on topics, rather than authors. This gives you the opportunity to write across a range of authors, focusing on some of the major preoccupations, both thematic and stylistic, of the period. Alternatively, you may choose to focus each of your examination answers on the work of only one or two authors.

Issues that you might choose to cover could include (for example) the development of realism, responses to industrialism, women's writing, concepts of identity and selfhood, guilt and transgression, memory and uses of the past, verbal and metrical experimentation, attitudes towards nation, race and Empire, decadence, the roots of modernism, symbolism, science, religion, class, domesticity, writing for children and the treatment of childhood, romance, popular fiction, melodrama, the social problem play, drama and identity, theatre and performance issues, the relationship between literature and art. These are only some of the possible topics that might legitimately be studied for this paper; there is no set list of texts or topics you are expected to cover.

Among the authors you might consider studying are the following: Arnold, Braddon, the Brontës, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Robert Browning, Carlyle, Carroll, Clough, Wilkie Collins, Conrad, Dickens, Emily Dickinson, Frederick Douglass, George Eliot, Emerson, Margaret Fuller, Elizabeth Gaskell, George Gissing, Hardy, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Hopkins, Harriet Jacobs, Henry James, Melville, Meredith, John Stuart Mill, Newman, Pater, Patmore, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, Poe, Christina Rossetti, Ruskin, Olive Schreiner, Shaw, R. L. Stevenson, Swinburne, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Tennyson, Thackeray, Thoreau, Twain, H. G. Wells, Wharton, Whitman, and Oscar Wilde. However, you may also choose to study groups of writers or particular genres, such as spasmodic poetry, Gothic, the dramatic monologue, elegy, and so on.

Candidates are encouraged to read widely within the period. You may discuss any literature written in the English language: there are no exclusions based on the author's citizenship, country of origin, or residence.

This paper is examined by a 3-hour typed invigilated exam. Students will be expected to answer three essay questions, and to show substantial knowledge of the work of at least three authors. You should NOT write more than one essay substantially on the same author.

Paper 4: Literature in English 1910 to the Present

This paper examines 20th and 21st century literature. The essay questions in the examination tend to be based on topics, rather than authors. This gives you the opportunity to write across a range of authors, focusing on some of the major thematic and stylistic preoccupations of the period. Alternatively you may choose to focus each of your examination answers on the work of only one or two authors.

Issues that you might choose to cover would include (for example) modernism, post-modernism, ideas of literary language, postcolonialism, literary experimentalism, primitivism, national (and other) identities, popular culture, concepts of literary value, journalism, gender, intertextuality, literature and other art forms, technology, innovations in modern theatre, war literature, and representations of the city.

Among the authors you might consider studying are Achebe, Atwood, Auden, James Baldwin, Djuna Barnes, Beckett, Bishop, Bowen, Kamau Brathwaite, Caryl Churchill, Coetzee, Conrad, DeLillo, Duffy, T. S. Eliot, William Faulkner, Forster, Friel, Greene, Heaney, Hemingway, Hill, Langston Hughes, Ted Hughes, Joyce, Larkin, Lawrence, Lessing, Mamet, Mansfield, Miller, Toni Morrison, Muldoon, Nabokov, Naipaul, Ondaatje, Orwell, Osborne, Pinter, Plath, the poets of the two World Wars, Pound, Roth, Rushdie, Shaw, Soyinka, Stein, Stoppard, Dylan Thomas, Walcott, Waugh, Tennessee Williams, Woolf, and Yeats.

Candidates are encouraged to read widely within the period. You may discuss any literature written in the English language: there are no exclusions based on the author's citizenship, country of origin, or residence.

This paper is examined by a 3-hour typed invigilated exam. Students will be expected to answer three essay questions, and to show substantial knowledge of the work of at least three authors. You should NOT write more than one essay substantially on the same author.